BOMBAY COURIER EXTRAORDINARY.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1826.

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16th 1826.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

29TH JANUARY, 1826.

Captain DAWKINS, A. D. C. arrived early this Morning, bearing a Dispatch from His Excellency the Commander in Chief, a Copy of which is published for general information.

Head-Quarters, Bhurtpore,
19th January 1826.

To the Right Honorable LORD AMHERST, Governor General, &c. &c. &c.

MY LORD,

I have the satisfaction to acquaint your Lordship, that the Town and Citadel of Bhurtpore fell yesterday morning to the British Army under my Command.

Since my Despatch of the 11th Instant, the whole attention of the Engineers was directed towards the completion of the Mines under the projecting Bastion on the left, and the North East Angle on the right.

On the 14th Instant, a Mine, under the Bastion on the left, was precipitately exploded, and failed in its object. I therefore directed two more Mines to be driven into that Bastion, which were blown on the 16th, and, with the aid of a day's battering, an excellent Breach was made.

The Explosion of the Mine under the North East Angle, at Eight o'Clock yesterday morning, was the Signal for the Storm, when the Columns, composed of Brigadier General MCCOMBE's Brigade on the right, and Brigadier General EDWARDS's Brigade on the left, advanced with the greatest order, gallantry, and steadiness, and, notwithstanding a determined opposition on the part of the Enemy, carried the Breaches. In the course of two hours, though vigorously and bravely defended at every Gate-way and Bastion, the whole Rampart surrounding the Town, together with the Command of the Gates of the Citadel, were in our possession; Major General Nicolls having moved his Column to the left, until he met a detachment of His Majesty's 14th Foot, Commanded by Major Everard, at the Kombheer Gate. The Citadel was surrendered at about four o'clock.

I regret to state that the Mine having exploded in an unexpected direction, several Men of His Majesty's 14th Foot, at the Head of the Column of attack, lost their lives, and Brigadier General McCombe, Brigadier Patton, and Captain Irvine, Major of Brigade of Engineers, received severe contusions.

Having directed Bregadier General Sleigh, Commanding the Cavalry, to prevent the escape of the Enemy's Troops after the assault, I am happy to say that he made such a disposition of his Forces, that he succeeded in securing Doorjun Sal, who with his Wife, two Sons, and a hundred and sixty chosen Horse, attempted to force a passage through the Eighth Light Cavalry.

I cannot compute the loss of the Enemy at less than Four Thousand Killed, and, owing to the disposition of the Cavalry, hardly a Man, bearing arms, escaped. Consequently, as by the Surrender of the Town, all the Stores, Arms, and Ammunition are in our possession, I may say that the whole Military Power of the Bhurtpore State has been annihilated. The Prisoners, after having been disarmed, were set free.

I have the pleasure to acquaint your Lordship, that the conduct of every one engaged was marked by a degree of zeal which calls for my unqualified approbation; but I must particularly remark the behaviour of His Majesty's 14th Regiment, Commanded by Major Everard, and 59th Commanded by Major Fuller; these Corps having led the Columns of Assault, by their steadiness and determination, decided the events of the day.—Two Companies of the First European Regiment, leading a small Column under Lieutenant Colonel Wilson, co-operating with Major General Nicolls's attack, behaved with equal gallantry.—The Sixth Regiment Native Infantry, Commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Pepper, one Wing of the Forty-first by Major Hunter, the Twenty-third by Lieutenant Colonel Nation, the Thirty-first by Lieutenant Colonel Baddeley, the Sixtieth by Lieutenant Colonel Bowyer, the Grenadier Company of the Thirty-fifth, and the Light Company of the Thirty-seventh, which Corps followed the Europeans in the Assault, proved themselves worthy of the distinguished places they held, as did the Sirmoor Battalion, which covered the Advance.

I beg to acquaint your Lordship, that since I assumed the Command of this Army, I have received the most effectual support and assistance from Major Generals Reynell and Nicolls. The excellent dispositions made by them for the Attack, as well as the manner in which they conducted it, entitle them to my warmest thanks, and I therefore beg most strongly to recommend them to your Lordship's notice.

Brigadier MacLeod, C. B., Commanding the Artillery, Brigadiers Hetzler and Brown, as well as every Officer and Private of the Artillery, performed their arduous and fatiguing duties throughout the Siege in the most exemplary manner, and will, I trust, meet with your Lordship's approbation.

Brigadier Anbury, C. B. and the Engineer Officers, as also the Native Officers and Privates of that valuable Corps, the Sappers and Miners, and the Pioneer Corps, performed the harassing duties allotted to them with a cheerfulness, courage, and zeal which demand my acknowledgments, and I beg to recommend them to your Lordship accordingly. The result of our operations proves the efficiency of the Brigadier's Plans.

The Services rendered by Brigadier General Sleigh, C. B., Commanding the Cavalry, during the whole Siege, have been most important, and I beg to recommend him, as well as Brigadiers Childers and Murray, C. B., to your Lordship's notice; and I cannot pass over, in silence, the general good and active conduct of the Cavalry, and the spirited manner in which they volunteered their services when I conceived (before the arrival of the First European Regt.) that it might have been expedient to employ them in the Storm.

I must also bring under your Lordship's particular notice, Lieutenant Colonel Skinner, and the two Regiments of Native Irregular Cavalry under his Command, who have performed every Service that has been required of them in a manner which merits my entire approbation.

To Brigadier Generals Adams, C. B., MacCombe, and Edwards, Brigadiers Whitehead, Patton, C. B., and Fagan, my acknowledgments are due, for the manner in which they have so ably conducted the duties assigned to them, and I therefore recommend them to your Lordship's favourable notice.

I received every assistance from Major General Sir Samford Whittingham and Lieutenant Colonel MacGregor, Quarter Master General and Acting Adjutant General of the King's Troops.

The eminent and zealous Services of Lieutenant Colonel Watson, and Lieutenant Colonel Stevenson, Adjutant General and Quarter Master General of the Army, demand my warmest thanks, and I beg particularly to bring them under your Lordship's notice, as also the Officers of their respective Departments.

The arrangements made by Lieutenant Colonel Cunliffe, Commissary General for the supply of the Army, were most efficient, and I have much pleasure in recommending him to your Lordship.

I also request to bring to your Lordship's notice, Lieutenant Colonel the Honorable John Finch, my Military Secretary, and the Officers composing my Personal Staff, from whom I received every aid.

The Situations in which Lieutenant Colonel Delamaine, 58th N. I., Lieut. Colonel Wilson, Commanding a Detachment, Majors Hunter, 41st N. I., Everard, H. M. 14th, Fuller, H. M. 59th, and Bisshopp, of H. M 14th, were placed, gave them opportunities for distinguishing themselves, of which they took every advantage. Captain Irvine, Major of Brigade of Engineers, also brought himself under my particular observation during the course of the Siege.

Major Generals Reynell und Nicolls, and Brigadier General Sleigh, have expressed their entire satisfaction with the assistance they received from the Officers of their General and Personal Staff.

The returns of Killed and Wounded have not yet been received, but I am happy to be able to state, that they are few considering the Service on which the Troops have been employed. I, however, transmit a Return of the Officers who have been reported. I regret that the Service has lost Three valuable Officers in Captain Armstrong, H. M.'s 14th, Captain Pitman, H. M. 59th, and Captain Brown, of the 31st Regt. N. I., who fell leading their Men on the Ramparts. Brigadier General Edwards, who was wounded gallantly leading his Brigade, is also, I fear, past recovery.

I have sent this Dispatch by my Aide-de-Camp Captain Dawkins, who will also take two of the Enemy's Standards, of which I request your Lordship's acceptance, and in referring to Captain Dawkins for any further information which your Lordship may require, I beg to recommend him to your Protection.

I have the honor to be,
My Lord,
Your Lordship's most Obedient
Humble Servant,
(Signed) COMBERMERE.

List of Officers Killed and Wounded in the Assault of Bhurtpore, on the 18th January, 1826.

KILLED.

Captain Armstrong, H. M. 14th Foot.
Captain Pitman, H. M. 59th.
Captain Brown, H. M. 31st N. I.

WOUNDED.

Staff.

Brigadier General McCombe, Commanding 1st Brigade.

Brigadier General Edwards, Commanding 2d Brigade, dangerously.

Brigadier R. Patton, C. B. Commanding 5th Brigade.
Major Beatson, D. A. G.
Captain Campbell, M. B.

Engineers.

Captain Colvin.
Captain Irvine, M. B.

Artillery.

Lieutenant MacGregor.

14th Foot.

Lieutenant Stack.
Lieutenant Daly.

59th Foot.

Lieutenant Long.
Lieutenant Hoctor.
Lieutenant Pittman.
Mr. Wright, Volunteer.

1st European Regiment.

Captain Davidson.
Lieutenant Warren.
Lieutenant Candy.

23d N. I.

Lieut. Colonel S. Nation.

31st N. I.

Capt. Heptinstall.

41st N. I.

Major George Hunter.

58th N. I.

Capt. John Hunter.
Lieut. Turner.
Lieut. Lumsdaine.

N. B. This is from Private information, no Return having been received.

(Signed) W. L. WATSON, *A. G.*

Published by Command of the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council,

GEORGE SWINTON,
Secy. to the Govt.

General Orders by the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council.

FORT WILLIAM,
29th January, 1826.

A Royal Salute and Three Vollies of Musketry to be fired at all the Stations of the Land Forces, serving in the East Indies, in honor of the Capture, by Assault, of the Fortified City of Bhurtpore, on the Morning of the 18th Instant, by the Army, under the personal Command of his Excellency the Right Hon'ble Lord Combermere, Commander in Chief, and of the Unconditional Surrender of the Citadel of Bhurtpore, on the same day.

By Command of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council,

GEORGE SWINTON,
Sec. to the Govt.

Published by Order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council,

W. NEWNHAM,
Chief Secretary.

BOMBAY CASTLE,
16th February 1826.

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